

[25th August 1926.]

**Electricity.***Cost, etc., of the Hydro-electric scheme.*

\* 2290 Q.—Mr. K. SARVAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) in what stage the Hydro-electric scheme is;
- (b) whether the detailed estimate for a scheme has been prepared and whether the necessary approval of those possessing technical knowledge of the subject has been obtained;
- (c) what is the estimated cost of the scheme;
- (d) how much of electrical power is calculated to be developed in this scheme;
- (e) what are the detailed proposals for the utilization of such power;
- (f) (1) how much money has so far been expended on the investigation of the scheme;
- (2) what are the details of such expenditure;
- (3) what money has been expended on the actual carrying out of the scheme so far;
- (g) whether the sanction of the Finance Department and the approval of the Finance Committee have been obtained before any portion of the lump provision made in the budget has been appropriated specifically for the above scheme;
- (h) whether it is a fact that the railway authorities have not given their approval to the utilization of the power by them;
- (i) whether the Secretary of State's sanction has been finally obtained for the execution of this scheme; and
- (j) what are the qualifications of the technical officers appointed by the Government for carrying out this scheme?

A.—Reports on three schemes for the development of hydro-electric power, with sources at Pykara, Pinjikavi and Papanasam have been submitted to Government by the late Chief Engineer. These schemes have been discussed with railway and other parties interested, and the co-operation of the Railway Board has been secured. The schemes are estimated to cost altogether something in the neighbourhood of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  crores, and a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided this year for preliminary operations. This sum was voted by the Legislative Council in the usual course. The reports are now under the scrutiny of a firm of consulting engineers.

**Irrigation.***Conversion of dry land in Cumbum valley into wet.*

\* 2291 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) the total extent of dry land in Cumbum valley which can be converted into wet by the Periyar water;
- (b) whether Government propose to take any steps to convert them into wet lands in the near future; and
- (c) whether the Government are aware of the difficulties felt by the people for drinking water in Cumbum and Coodalore villages?